

MT ROUSE NEWS & VIEWS



happy   
 *New Year* 



*Santa in
Penshurst -
Photos
pages 5 & 7.*

Penshurst Progress Association

ABN 35 622 662 815

president@penshurstprogress.org.au

Committee of Management:
Ama Cooke – Chairperson 0402 870 738
Brian O’Brien - Secretary
Don Adamson - Treasurer
Tom Cooke, Sue Jellie & Jeff Jellie

Next Meeting - Wednesday 25th January 2023 7.30pm Penshurst Memorial Hall

Good morning everyone,

Happy New Year. 2022 seems to have spun by at high speed. I wonder if this year will do the same.

As we settle back into our yearly routines, the first event on the agenda is the upcoming Australia Day. For the newcomers, it’s held in the Penshurst Botanic Gardens commencing at 8.30am. There is a barbecue to follow, ably provided for us by the Lions Club.

In this newsletter you will find information from the CFA regarding the town’s response to the Fire Season.

Our first community meeting will be on the 25th January at 7.30pm. We will be evaluating the Community Plan and ask that if you have ideas or wishes to benefit our community, please either join us at the meeting, or send an email to president@penshurstprogress.org.au.

Tasks to begin the year: installing the new Heritage Signs around the town; getting the Napier Waller Green Space out of hibernation; chasing grants for shade sails over the kid’s climbing frame in the Gardens; actioning the Community Plan. What have I forgotten? What needs to be added. The Progress Association works best when everyone has a voice, even if you don’t come to meetings.

See you on the 25th.

Wishing everyone a wonderful fortnight,
Ama Cooke, Chair, PPA

There is no such thing as being too busy; if you really want something you will make time for it.

Unknown

Australia Day logo with text: Thursday 26th January 2023 8.30am Penshurst Botanic Gardens BBQ breakfast to follow Everyone welcome. See you there.

Advertisement for MT House News & Views featuring a thumbnail image of a newsletter page and text: Would you like to sponsor the colour front page on our community newsletter? All funds gathered by advertising in the newsletter help the Progress Association support community projects. For more information contact Ama 0402 878 738

Penshurst man win National Volunteer award

Penshurst long time resident, Brian O'Brien, has been given an Australian Government National Volunteer award.

Mr O'Brien was presented with the award by the Federal Member for Wannon, Dan Tehan, at his office just before Christmas.

Dozens of people throughout the Wannon electorate were given their awards in mid-November in Warrnambool for being prominent volunteers in their community, but Mr O'Brien was unable to attend this ceremony.

Nominated by the Volcanoes Discovery Centre for the award, the citation said Mr O'Brien was recognised for his long service to the VDC since it opened in 2003.

"For most of that time, Mr O'Brien has served on the committee of management of the centre and was heavily involved in both the 2008 and present upgrades to the centre," it said.

"He is also active in the Penshurst Progress Association and the Mt Rouse and District Historical Society. His enthusiasm for both the Volcano Centre and the town makes him a special member of the community."

Mr O'Brien, who won the Penshurst Citizen of the Year award for 2018, told the Mt Rouse News and Views he was delighted "and a bit overwhelmed" to receive the Australian Government volunteer award.

"No one undertakes community work in the expectation of getting such an award, but it's still pleasing to find the community appreciates the time that volunteers put into so many organisations," Mr O'Brien said.

Small towns rely on volunteers

"Small towns would collapse without volunteers," he added. "I have always felt that it's almost incumbent on people living in small towns to join groups so their town can prosper and be more interesting to live in."

"I am worried about the future of many organisations as those that I am still involved in have a predominance of members in their 60s and 70s. We all desperately need younger people to be involved or the future is going to be bleak," Mr O'Brien added. "I am 77 and have been volunteering for 40 years, but I get the feeling there's not the same commitment to volunteering as my generation. I hope I am wrong and that I'm just an old fart indulging in nostalgia."

As well as presently being on the management committee of the Volcanoes Discovery Centre, Mr O'Brien has been heavily involved in the towns progress associations,



Pic: The Federal member for Wannon, Dan Tehan, presents Mr O'Brien with his Australian Government National Volunteer award.

Penshurst Accommodation

Having family or friends coming to visit and not enough room or just wanting a holiday. Check out Annie's on Ti Tree, 31 Ti Tree Lane, Penshurst. BnB Fully self contained Accommodation.

Can be booked direct through Airbnb or privately
0438765226



New Year Jokes to share with your kids

* Did you hear about the guy who started fixing breakfast at midnight on Dec. 31?

He wanted to make a New Year's toast!

* In what year did Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall in the same year?

Every year!

* What happened to the woman who stole a calendar on New Year's Eve?

She got 12 months.

* Why should you put your new calendar in the freezer?

To start off the new year in a cool way.

* What is a New Year's resolution?

Something that goes in one year and

out the other.

* An iPhone and a firework were arrested on New Year's Eve.

One was charged and the other was let off.

* I can't wait till New Year's Day 2021.

Then I can say hindsight is really 2020.

* Why was 6 afraid of 9 on New Year's Eve?

Because 9, 8, 7 ...

* Who gets the most excited about the New Year's Eve countdown?

Calendar companies.

* Dracula passed out at midnight on New Year's Eve; there was a count down.

Santa in Peshurst

Many a small child was delighted by Santa's visit. There was only one small sweetheart who was not interested in the man with the fiery red suit.

Oddly enough, many of the local, much loved town dogs decided to try out for a new role pulling Santa's sleigh. A couple of them have some serious growing to do.

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and will enjoy 2023.



Penshurst man win National Volunteer award (continued)

... joining the inaugural Advance Penshurst in 1995. He is currently on the management committee of its successor, the Penshurst Progress Association. Other groups he has been involved with include:

- ** Mt Rouse and District Historical Society - president for 14 years, and honorary life member.
- ** Boram Boram Cemetery Trust - member for 12 years
- ** Penshurst Racing Club - former committee member for 10 years
- ** Founder of the Friends of Napier Waller
- ** Penshurst's 150th celebrations (2011) - committee member
- ** Western Victorian Association of Historical Societies - wrote history of WVAHS, on its management committee member for eight years.

**MEDIA RELEASE**

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL



4th January 2023
Single Use
Plastic Bags

The Victorian Government has released [Regulations](#) to ban single-use plastic drinking straws, cutlery, plates, drink-stirrers, cotton bud sticks, and expanded polystyrene food service items and drink containers in Victoria from **1 February 2023**. More information and free resources such as a **factsheet, poster, and postcard** can be found at www.vic.gov.au/plastics. Translated resources will be available soon.

Councils are encouraged to use and display these resources in council offices and other facilities and to share them with local businesses and organisations, including sporting clubs, markets, festival and event organisers.

Support for local businesses

The Victorian Government has engaged the National Retail Association (NRA) to help businesses understand and prepare for the upcoming ban. The NRA will visit 3000 businesses across Victoria and hold weekly online information sessions until February 2023. They will also provide a toll-free hotline and mailbox for businesses until June 2023.

Free business information sessions are held every Friday at 11am. These sessions are designed for businesses of any size or type to 'pop in', ask questions, receive practical advice, and see what other businesses are doing. [Businesses can register for a session](#). Councils are encouraged to promote these sessions through local business networks and channels.

Businesses can also call the hotline on **1800 844 946** or email sustainability@nra.net.au if they have any further questions about preparing for the ban.

More photos from Santa in Peshurst



Above: Santa was very busy when he dropped into the Peshurst Kindergarten, much to the delight of young and old.

Below: The Linke family dropped by to say hello.



Thank you Santa. We look forward to seeing you next year!

Penshurst Hair Design



Opening Days

**Tuesday,
Thursday
Friday &
every second
Saturday
10am - 2pm**

By Appointment

For appointments please ring

Mobile: 0417 511 177



Musings from the Shed



Re-opening

Tuesday 24th January 2023.

10am - 4pm

Tuesday & Saturday.

For more information contact

Tom Cooke 0488 557 345.

Youth is when you're allowed to stay up late on New Year's Eve.

Middle age is when you're forced to.



PENSHURST Post Office

**BANK@POST/ BILL PAY@POST
WORKING WITH CHILDREN &
PASSPORT/ TAX FILE APPLICATIONS
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WESTERN UNION
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Ph/Fax 5576 5220

31 Martin Street



Trust Sister Silence

The retreat master said it in passing. Tossed it quickly into the air and smartly went onto the next exciting story.

'Oh' I gasped. 'I could use that'. Sure it needs a little bit more head scratching and soul searching, but that's a really good phrase.

Over in the Yarra Valley we were on retreat and basking in delicious, scrumptious silence. Apart from our prayers and The Retreat Master offering us thought provoking morsels to savour, no one was muttering anything. It was very yummy.

Some of my colleagues find the silence confronting, some are nonplussed by it... a take it or leave type of thinking. Others like myself can't wait to dive straight in and loll around in the solitude. You can trust the silence. It won't let you down. Sure some ghosts and demons of the past may raise their ugly heads to sneer and taunt you, but they are just there and you have time and space to stare straight back at them. See them for what they really are and maybe even squash them with the mallet of reconciliation. The silence gives you the time and space to do this. Sister Silence is your greatest ambassador and your most potent weapon. You can trust the silence. Do not be afraid of it.

The good thing is you don't have to go all the way to the Yarra Valley to find Sister Silence. She can come to you at any time and in any place. All you have to do is put out the Welcome mat and make sure she has the opportunity to work her healing magic.

Over all the retreats and all the quiet days Sister Silence has never let me down. Ever. She has always soothed, calmed and massaged my soul.

Trust the silence.

Fr. David Oulton p. 0435 867 040 droulton72@gmail.com

* Intinction is the Eucharistic practice of partly dipping the consecrated bread, or host, into the consecrated wine before consumption by the communicant.

Are you new to Penshurst and would like to meet other people? Or are you interested in meeting & welcoming people who are new to Penshurst?

Come along to a coffee catch-up.

When: 3rd Wednesday of the month

Where: Penshurst Store & Bakery

NEW Time: 10:30am

18th January 2023

Looking forward to meeting you!

Jacqui 5576 5102



Please note NEW DATE AND TIME

to avoid clashing with
other town activities

Opening Hours:

Monday - CLOSED

Tuesday to Friday - 7.30am - 2.00pm

Saturday – 8.00am - 2.00pm

Sunday - CLOSED



Penshurst Store

Pop into the store and try some of our delicious pies, pasties, and sausage rolls. Freshly baked bread, cakes and slices.

Treat yourself to a ROX coffee or Hot Chocolate and browse our everchanging giftware and local produce.

Phone orders and payments most welcome.



Amanda & Cam Wilson

0439 941 942

Café/Bakery 110 Bell Street, Penshurst penshurststore@gmail.com

CHRISTOPHER COOK CONSTRUCTIONS

Ph: 0417 100 243

Fax: 5576 5267



**HIA Reg CB-U 6214
DB-U 5109**

**112 Bell Street
Penshurst Vic 3289**



- Agronomy Services
- Farm Production & Planning Management
- Seed & Fertiliser Supply
- Crop & Pasture Protection Products
- Animal Health & Nutrition
- General Merchandise
- On Farm Deliveries

Western AG's core objective is to provide high quality production advice and to supply competitively priced inputs to assist clients to grow the business profitably.

Western AG Hamilton - T: 03 5579 5900

Tim Wilson (Branch Manager) 0429 168 020

Matt Barber (Senior Agronomist) 0488 298 170

Damien Goodman (Agronomist) 0427 159 462

Geordie Elliott (Nutrition & Production) 0438 874 587

Meg Todd (Animal Health) 0437 772 861

Western AG Willaura - T: 03 5354 1585

Glen Gray - 0439 541 036



Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

RAINFALL OBSERVATIONS

F71 / Mat. No. 502100
September 2021

AT PENSURST, VICTORIA

YEAR 2022

ALL ENTRIES IN MILLIMETRES TO ONE DECIMAL PLACE

Day of the week shown in the left hand column for each month

DATE	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	DATE
1	Sat 0	Tu 0	Tu 0	F 0	S 0.6	W 9.8	F 0	M 6.6	Th 0	Sat 0	Tu 11.8	Th 0.2	1
2	S 0	W 0	W 9	Sat 0	M 0.2	Th 1	Sat 22.2	Tu 2	F 9.4	S 0	W 8.6	F 0	2
3	M 0	Th 1	Th 0	S 0	Tu 0	F 0	S 0.2	W 1.4	Sat -	M 0	Th 3.8	Sat 0.4	3
4	Tu 0	F 0	F 0	M 0	W 4.6	Sat -	M 0	Th 4.2	S 2.8	Tu 2.6	F 0.2	S 0	4
5	W 0.4	Sat 0	Sat -	Tu 0.2	Th 5.2	S -	Tu 0.2	F 1.2	M 0	W 0.1	Sat 0	M 1.0	5
6	Th 0	S 0	S -	W 0	F 6.6	M 22.4	W 0.1	Sat 1.8	Tu 0.1	Th 3.8	S 0	Tu 0.4	6
7	F 17.2	M 0	M 23	Th 0	Sat 3.2	Tu 8.8	Th 0.1	S 0.6	W 0	F 4.4	M 0	W 0	7
8	Sat 2.8	Tu 0	Tu 0	F 0	S 3.8	W 3.8	F 5.2	M 0	Th 0.4	Sat 0.6	Tu 0	Th 3.2	8
9	S 0.2	W 0	W 0.1	Sat 0	M 0	Th 1.2	Sat 3.6	Tu 0	F 18.6	S 0	W 0	F 0	9
10	M 0	Th 0	Th 0	S 0	Tu 0	F 0.8	S 1	W 0	Sat 7	M 0	Th 2.2	Sat 0	10
11	Tu 0	F 0	F 0	M 0.8	W 0	Sat 1.1	M 0	Th 2.8	S 0	Tu 0	F 12.2	S 0	11
12	W 0	Sat 0	Sat 0	Tu 0	Th 0.8	S 2.4	Tu 1	F 1.4	M 4	W 0	Sat 0.6	M 16.2	12
13	Th 0	S 0	S 0	W 0	F 0	M 1.8	W 0.4	Sat 2	Tu 0.4	Th 1.9	S 4.2	Tu 4.6	13
14	F 5.2	M 0	M 0	Th 0	Sat 0.8	Tu 0.2	Th 0.1	S -	W 0	F 15.8	M 4.6	W 9.4	14
15	Sat 0.4	Tu 0	Tu 2.2	F 0	S 0.2	W 3	F 0	M 11.8	Th 2.8	Sat 3.2	Tu 4.4	Th 2.2	15
16	S 0	W 0	W 0	Sat 0	M 3	Th 5.6	Sat 0.8	Tu 7.2	F 0	S -	W 2.4	F 0.8	16
17	M 0	Th 0.1	Th 5.6	S 0	Tu 2.6	F 2	S 6.2	W 0.8	Sat 7.8	M 5.6	Th 1.4	Sat 0	17
18	Tu 0	F 3	F 0	M 5	W 1.2	Sat 0.1	M 6.8	Th 4	S 8.2	Tu 0	F 0	S 0	18
19	W 0	Sat 0	Sat 0	Tu 2.6	Th 1.4	S 0	Tu 1.6	F -	M 8	W 0	Sat 1	M 0	19
20	Th 0	S 0	S 0	W 1.4	F 0	M 0	W 0	Sat 15.6	Tu 0.2	Th 0	S 14.4	Tu 0	20
21	F 0	M 2.2	M 0.2	Th 0.2	Sat 0	Tu 5.8	Th 0	S 0	W 2.2	F 0	M 12	W 0	21
22	Sat 0	Tu 0	Tu 0	F 0	S 0	W 1.2	F 0	M 0	Th 0	Sat 5.9	Tu 4.8	Th 0.6	22
23	S 0	W 0	W 0	Sat 0	M 0.4	Th 1.2	Sat -	Tu 1.4	F 0	S 2.4	W 1.6	F 11.2	23
24	M 0	Th 0	Th 0	S 0	Tu 0	F 4.8	S 5.8	W 2.2	Sat 0.8	M 8.2	Th 0.8	Sat 0	24
25	Tu 0	F 0	F 0.2	M 0	W 0	Sat -	M 2	Th 2.2	S 0	Tu 3.2	F 0	S 0	25
26	W 0	Sat 0	Sat 0	Tu 0	Th 2	S 7.6	Tu 8.6	F 0.6	M 5.6	W 0.8	Sat -	M 0	26
27	Th 2.6	S 0	S 0	W 1	F 0.1	M 1	W 4	Sat 0	Tu 13.2	Th 3.2	S 0.6	Tu 0	27
28	F 13.4	M 2.1	M 0	Th 0	Sat 0	Tu 0	Th 2.8	S 0	W 3.2	F 9.8	M 0	W 3.2	28
29	Sat -		Tu 0	F 0	S 4	W 0	F 0	M 0	Th 0.8	Sat 4	Tu 1.2	Th 0.2	29
30	S -		W 0	Sat 4.6	M 0	Th 0.2	Sat 4	Tu 2.3	F 0.0	S 2	W 0	F 0.2	30
31	M 34.4		Th 0.4		Tu 11.2		S -	W 3.4		M 10.6		Sat 0	31
Totals	76.6	8.4	40.7	15.8	51.9	90.9	56.7	108.8	95.3	158.3	92.8	53.8	
Number of Days	9	5	10	7	19	22	20	24	20	20	22	14	
	Since 1st Jan.	2 months	3 months	4 months	5 months	6 months	7 months	8 months	9 months	10 months	11 months	Year	
Totals	76.6	85	125.7	141.5	193.4	284.3	341	449.8	545.1	703.4	796.2	850	
Average All Years	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	Year
	Since 1st Jan.	2 months	3 months	4 months	5 months	6 months	7 months	8 months	9 months	10 months	11 months	Year	
Total Number of Days	9	14	24	31	50	72	92	116	136	156	178	192	

Observers with display facilities are requested to exhibit this sheet in a conspicuous position.
At end of year retain this sheet with rain register. The rain should be entered on the day it is measured.

With thanks to Jenny & Bruce at the Penshurst Post Office

MEDIA RELEASE

SOUTHERN GRAMPAINS SHIRE COUNCIL



16 December 2022

CHANGES TO OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOL OPENING HOURS

Southern Grampians Shire Council endorsed the recommendation to alter opening hours for the 2022-2023 Outdoor Pool Season at Wednesday's Council Meeting to address lifeguard shortages across the region. Changes will be made to the early morning swim schedule as well as operating hours at Peshurst and Glenthompson pools. Early morning swimming will be offered two days a week at Hamilton, on Monday and Thursday morning, and Coleraine, open Tuesday and Friday. Glenthompson and Peshurst pools will adopt a rotational timetable which will see Glenthompson open Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, and Peshurst open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday (weather dependant).

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor David Robertson said the changes to the outer township pools were necessary due to lack of available lifeguards. "These changes have been implemented as a way to combat the lack of available lifeguards we are currently facing across the Southern Grampians to still enable all of our outdoor pools to open safely for community members," said Cr Robertson. "Despite undertaking a significant recruitment campaign to employ lifeguards, we are sitting at approximately 55% of the required level to ensure all pools can open as per the Outdoor Pools Policy.

"For the current season we now have 38 lifeguards on the books which is down from 47 last year. We need 60 to be able to open all pools to the previous hours of operation and in line with the current Outdoor Pools Policy so we believe this is the best solution to ensure residents are still able to attend a pool in their township. "While Glenthompson and Peshurst will now open on a rotational basis, if we can increase the overall number of lifeguards, we will endeavour to open these locations as close to regular operating hours as we can. However, this is wholly dependent upon the recruitment of more lifeguards.

"The difficult decision on how to reduce operating hours was based on Glenthompson and Peshurst having been identified as the two lowest attended pools within the Southern Grampians, along with proximity to Dunkeld. "We know the lack of lifeguards is not just isolated here but is an industry and also state-wide issue. In the lead up to the 2022/23 season, we have, and will continue to push to recruit and also to help facilitate those needing training to get them out to our swimming pools," concluded Cr Robertson.

Residents interested in undertaking lifeguard training courses or becoming a qualified lifeguard, can get in touch with Council on 5573 0444 to discuss opportunities.

Alongside these proposed changes, strategic discussion regarding future direction of operations of the outdoor pools for the 2023/24 season and review of the Operations Policy will be undertaken. The Hamilton Outdoor Swimming Pool opened to the public on 17 November, with Balmoral, Dunkeld and Coleraine following in December. Peshurst and Glenthompson are set to open (weather permitting) next week.

Media Enquiries: Ashlea Sealey | 0460 321 634 | asealey@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au

111 Brown Street, Hamilton 3300 | Locked Bag 685, Hamilton 3300
Telephone: (03) 5573 0444 | council@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au | www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au

A PAGE TO SHARE RECIPES

Lemongrass Chicken

Prep Time 15 mins Cooking Time 20 mins Serves 4

INGREDIENTS

650g chicken thigh fillets, cut into 2cm pieces	1/4 cup (60ml) low-salt soy sauce
2 brown onions, halved, sliced lengthways	1/4 cup (60ml) lime juice
1 stalk lemongrass, white part only, finely chopped	1/4 cup (55g) brown sugar
3 garlic cloves, finely chopped	1/2 cup Vietnamese mint leaves
1/4 cup (60ml) fish sauce	1/2 cup coriander leaves
	Steamed jasmine rice, to serve

METHOD

• Step 1

Combine the chicken, onion, lemongrass, garlic, fish sauce, soy sauce, lime juice and brown sugar in a large bowl. Cover with plastic wrap and place in the fridge for 1 hour to marinate.

• Step 2

Heat a wok over high heat. Use a slotted spoon to lift the chicken from the marinade, reserving the marinade. Add one-quarter of the chicken to the wok and stir-fry for 3-4 minutes or until chicken is cooked through and beginning to caramelise. Transfer to a bowl. Repeat in 3 more batches with remaining chicken.

• Step 3

Pour the marinade into the wok and bring to the boil. Cook, stirring occasionally, until marinade is reduced by half. Remove from heat and pour over the chicken.

• Step 4

Divide chicken among serving plates and sprinkle with mint and coriander leaves. Serve immediately with steamed rice.



Last Fortnight's Crossword - Across: 2 sign, 3 sleep, 8 lush, 9 fit, 11 memorise, 13 accessible, 17 sneeze, 18 heartbreaking, 19 vegetable, 21 unsuitable, 22 energetic, 24 number, 27 rubicon, 29 lively, 30 ducks. **Down:** 1 mince, 4 petals, 5 dull, 6 shivering, 7 ordinary, 10 overconfident, 12 comfortable, 14 clumsy, 15 woebegone, 16 cheesecake, 20 library, 23 electric, 25 mitten, 26 tray, 28 rose.

Buy, Swap & Sell

Rhino Sportz roof rack.

Near new. \$50.

Ph. Brian on 0437844586

Lost & Found

Found 1 x Earing

Shortly after New Year between Post Office and Hotel

Available for pickup if identical twin is presented

Contact - the Editor

All advertising in these two sections are \$2 per ad per issue. Contact the Editor for more details.



Shane Ottrey of Caramut is looking for nesting sites/trees of the yellow tailed Black Cockatoo for the purpose of study over the next few months.

If anyone can help him locate these sites please contact him on 0417 223 728. Thank you.

“Scientists have reported that elephants grieve their dead, monkeys perceive injustice and cockatoos like to dance to the music of the Backstreet Boys.” — Hal Herzog



DAN TEHAN MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR **WANNON**

As your representative in the Federal Parliament, listening to your views about our local area is my priority.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance:
190 Gray Street, Hamilton or
1300 131 692



 1300 131 692
  dan.tehan.mp@aph.gov.au
  dantehan.com.au
 DanTehanWannon
  dantehan

Authorised by Dan Tehan MP, Liberal Party of Australia, 190 Gray St, Hamilton VIC 3300.

Fun for the kids

8 facts about pigs



1. Pigs are very clean animals - Despite my mother consistently calling my bedroom a pigsty growing up, pigs are actually very clean animals. In fact, they're some of the cleanest animals around and refuse to defecate where they sleep and eat if given the choice. Even newborn piglets will leave their sleeping areas to relieve themselves!

2. Pigs can't sweat - "Sweating like a pig" is another misleading and commonly used phrase since

pigs can't sweat! Pigs don't have many sweat glands, so they roll around and sleep in mud and swim in water to keep cool. A bonus to rolling in mud: it helps keep a pig's skin from getting sunburned.

3. Pigs are smarter than your dog - It's true! Pigs have the intelligence of a human toddler and are ranked as the fifth most intelligent animal in the world! In fact, pigs are more intelligent and trainable than any breed of dog. They learn their names in just two weeks and come when they're called. Pigs are even capable of playing video games better than some primates.

4. Mother pigs sing to their babies - This is one of the sweetest facts about pigs: mother pigs sing to their babies while nursing. Newborn piglets learn to run towards their mothers' voices, and pigs constantly communicate with each other. They have more than 20 distinct grunts and squeals that have been identified and range from expressing hunger to calling for mates.

5. Pigs love belly rubs! - Social animals, pigs love to use trees to rub and scratch on and enjoy belly rubs from their human caretakers! They even enjoy various enrichment toys and playing with each other.

6. Pigs have an excellent sense of direction - Pigs are navigators: they can find their way home over large distances. They can often trot long distances and can reach up to 11 miles per hour running.

7. Pigs dream and like to sleep nose-to-nose - Have you ever seen a piggy pile? Pigs love to stay connected with each other by sleeping close together, often making sure to touch their friends while they drift off to dreamland! Few animals are more social than pigs, who form close bonds with other pigs and humans.

8. Pigs have excellent memories - Remember when we said pigs are incredibly intelligent and can play video games better than some primates? Well, a pig wouldn't forget that! Pigs have exceptional memories, especially when it comes to object location. If they find a great spot for grub, they'll remember to look at the exact spot again!

Community Meetings

Boram Boram Cemetery Trust

- Contact Jeff Jellie 0407 781 407 or Sue 0418 141 301

Caramut & District Garden Club

- 2nd Tuesday monthly at 10 am. See Garden Notes for venue.

Penshurst Hospital

- Combined Churches service 3rd Tuesday every month in W.J. Lewis wing at 11 am.
- Penshurst Hospital Ladies Auxiliary, 3rd Tuesday each month, Sheppard Room 1.30 pm.
- Residents, Relatives & Carers group, Tuesday bi-monthly, 1:30 pm.
- Penshurst Social Support Group - WDHS meets every Thursday; for Exercise, Activities, Outings and General chit chat. Join us for lots of fun & laughter at Sheppard Centre - **COVID Permitting**. Western District Health Service – PENSURST Campus. Please contact Fiona Social Support Group Coordinator on 03-5551 8381 Or @ WDHS on 55518683

Mt Rouse & District Historical Society

- Courthouse open 1st Saturday each month 9.30 am to 12.30 pm.
- Meeting 4th Sunday in January, March, May, July, September and November, 2pm at the Court House. Phone Phil 0458 766 250.

Friends Yatmerone Reserve

- Meeting 2nd Tuesday every second month, commencing February at Volcanoes Discovery Centre 7.30 pm. New members welcome.

Lions Club of Penshurst & District

- 1st Friday dinner meeting. 3rd Tuesday business meeting, each month at 8 pm at Penshurst Memorial Hall, 21 Martin Street. penshurst.vic@lions.org.au

Penshurst Book Club - meets 3rd Tuesday each month at 2pm. Contact Ruth Pihl on 0490418313



AmbulanceVictoria

The Penshurst Branch is staffed by local Ambulance Community Officers (ACOs).

Ambulance Victoria is regularly looking for local ACOs. If you are interested in becoming an ACO or would like further information, please email penshurst.teamleader@ambulance.vic.gov.au

Penshurst Bowls Club

- Pennant Season (October - February) meets 1st Thursday at 7.30pm Alaister 0427 555 973
- Off Season 1st Tuesday at 7.30pm.

Penshurst Pony Club Rally

- 1st Sunday each month. Phone Jenni 0409 962 969

Penshurst Senior Citizens

- meet last Tuesday monthly, 4 pm at club rooms in Bell Street.
- Novelty Bingo, last Tuesday of month Feb - Nov at 2.15 pm.
- Cards & social afternoon, 2nd Wednesday monthly at 2pm

Penshurst Church Services

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Tabor

Service every Sunday 10.00am

Penshurst Anglican Church

5pm Mass 4th Sunday each month

For further details contact Janet Kelly on 5576 5247

St Andrew's Uniting Church Penshurst

2nd & 4th Sunday

11am Service

St Joseph's Catholic Church Penshurst

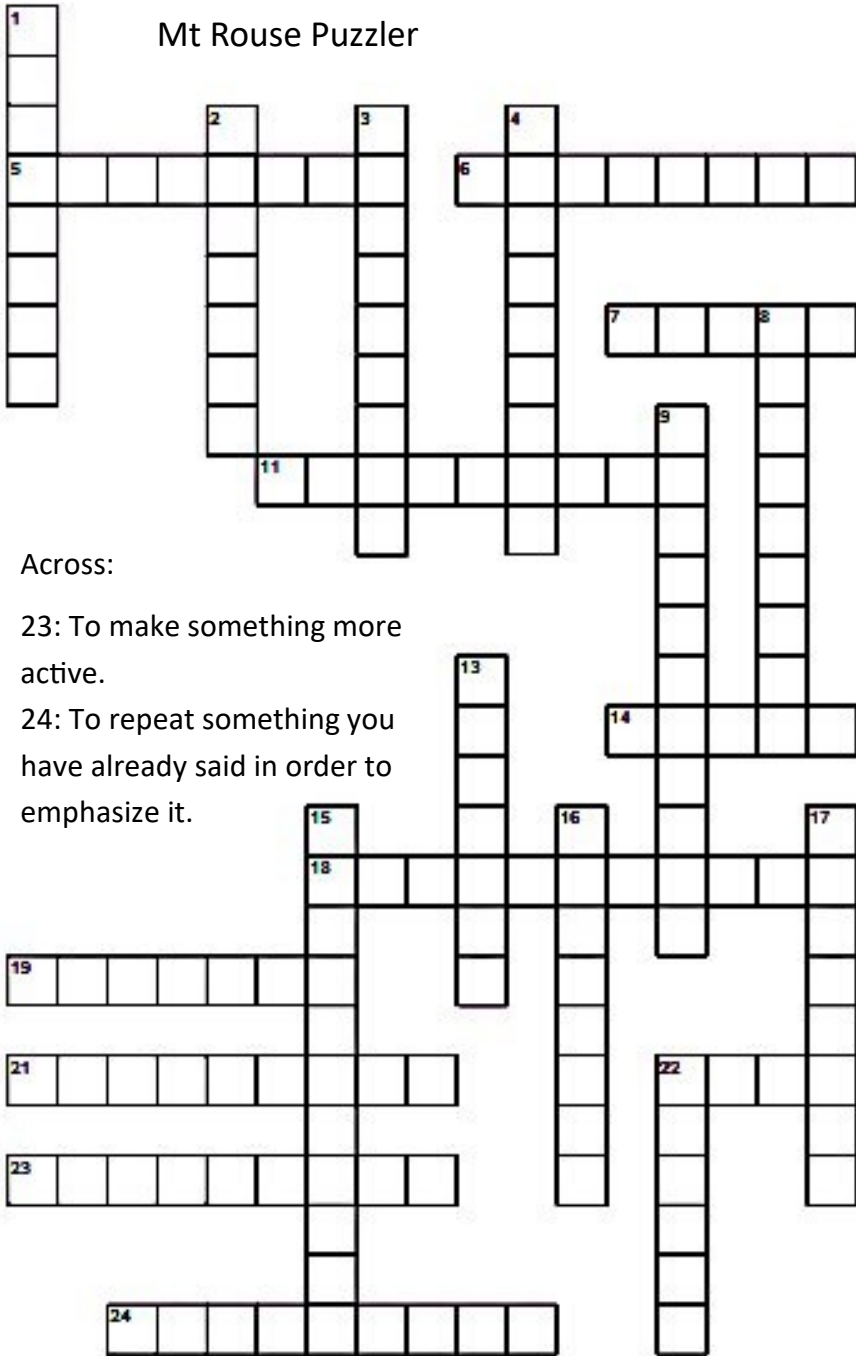
1st Sunday No Service

2nd Sunday Mass 8.30am

3rd Sunday Lay Service 8.30am

4th Sunday Mass 8.30am

5th Sunday Mass 8.30am



Mt Rouse Puzzler

Across:

- 5: Belonging to the basic nature of someone or something.
- 6: To secretly plan with someone to do something that is harmful or illegal.

7: To cause someone to do something by

asking, arguing, or giving reasons.

11: To name things one after another in a list.

14: To grow again after being lost, damaged, etc.

18: A keepsake.

19: A short period of time when you are able to stop doing

something that is difficult or unpleasant.

21: Very confident &

daring.

22: Something that helps to make someone or something better or more likely to succeed than others.

Across:

23: To make something more active.

24: To repeat something you have already said in order to emphasize it.

19

21

23

24

Down:

- 1: The state of being real or complete.
- 2: Small issue, unimportant.
- 3: Very bad, unpleasant, offensive.
- 4: Something that naturally follows or results from another thing.
- 8: To separate groups of people because of their particular race, religion, etc.
- 9: Based on, showing, or resulting from feelings or emotions rather than reason or thought.
- 10: A belief.

- 12: A friendly person who likes being with and talking to other people.
- 13: To increase the size or amount of something.
- 15: Not capable of being changed.
- 16: No longer practiced or used.
- 17: To prevent a person or animal from doing something.
- 20: A very poor person who has no money to pay for food, clothing, etc.
- 22: To state to be true.

My New Year's resolution is to stop procrastinating. But I'll wait until tomorrow to start.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

**Mobile Library
Will be visiting Penshurst
every Thursday fortnight
3.00 - 4.00pm**

Outside the Hall in Martin St

**Dates for January 19th &
February 2nd & 16th**

Phone: 5573 0470

www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/library

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
GREATER HAMILTON LIBRARY**

Penshurst's Website

Have you visited the Penshurst
website yet?

Not only is the site full of valuable
information, but there are
links to many of the important
organisations within our town.

Would you like to add a link
to your website? Email
president@penshurstprogress.org.au

Visit our site

**www.penshurstvictoria.com.au
and let us know if you have any
comments.**

Editor

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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS — Saturday 21st January 2023

The newsletter will be published on Wednesday fortnightly and we would appreciate submissions at the earliest possible time within the fortnight but no later than the Saturday immediately prior to the Wednesday of publishing.

Editor : Ama Cooke

All correspondence to: mtrousenewsletter@gmail.com

F R E E N E W S L E T T E R F O R T N I G H T

Also available in colour online at

<http://www.penshurstvictoria.com.au/Penshurst%20Newsletter.html>

Newsletter Advertising Rates (Per Issue)

Full page \$20 + GST **1/2 page** \$10 + GST **1/3 page** \$7.50 + GST
1/4 page \$5 + GST **Business Card** \$3 + GST

Preparation Checklist and Emergency Kit

Before summer

- Pack an Emergency Kit with essential items and keep it in a handy place.
- Scan important documents and photos onto a memory stick.
- Save important contact numbers in your mobile phone. Include family, friends and the VicEmergency Hotline. Keep a fully charged portable charger handy for emergencies. Download the VicEmergency app if you have a smartphone.
- Set aside protective clothing (long-sleeved, made from natural material such as cotton, and sturdy footwear such as leather boots) for each member of the family.
- Buy a battery-operated radio, powerful torch and extra batteries.
- Put pure wool blankets in your car for protection in case you get caught on the road.
- Practise packing your car so you know how long it will take.
- Mark your main routes, including back-up routes and petrol stations on hard copy maps and store in your glove box.
- Make arrangements with anyone you plan to visit or stay with when you leave early.
- Talk to neighbours or nearby friends about ways you can help each other.
- Don't forget pets. Make sure pet containers are in your Emergency Kit or packed in the car. If you have horses, make sure you can move them somewhere else if they won't be safe on your property.
- Follow the tips on pages 6 and 7 to prepare your property.



Remember to prepare for your pets as well. Make sure your pet is wearing an identification tag and add the following items to your Emergency Kit:

- › suitable transport carriers or leash
- › any medications
- › dietary supplements
- › food and drinking water
- › a familiar item (toy, bed, treats) to help reduce stress.

Your Emergency Kit



Penshurst Neighbourhood Safer Place Site

The current site of the NSP- BPLR is a grassed road reserve at rear of Penshurst Senior Citizens Centre – French Street between Bell St and Watton St. The Penshurst site was designated in 2013.

The community campaign to change the current site from outdoors to indoors, specifically The Memorial Hall has been progressing.

The suggested change for the Penshurst BPLR was discussed at the Municipal Emergency

Management Planning Committee in December and was supported by all members. A final decision will be made by Council in February.

The Penshurst Working Group – Anthony Page, Brendan Cottrill, Ama Cooke, Sue Jellie, Peter Brown and Richard Benson - have been working on this change on behalf of the community.

For the current fire season the designated NSP-BPLR site is at French St.



Neighbourhood Safer Place

Given the summer season is now upon us it is timely to consider all options available to residents in the event of an emergency. A Neighbourhood Safer Place also known as Bushfire Place of Last Resort (NSP-BPLR) exists - as a back-up plan if your primary emergency plan fails or your planned options are unable to be implemented. All plans have the potential to fail, and it is impossible to predict all potential scenarios.

The Victorian Government established 'Neighbourhood Safer Places' in response to the recommendations from the 2009 Victorian Bushfire Royal Commission regarding the need for a range of community shelter and relocation options in the event of a bushfire threat.

A 'Neighbourhood Safer Place' (also known as a 'Bushfire Place of Last Resort' or NSP-BPLR) is a place of last resort when all other bushfire plans have failed.



Know Your Daily Fire Danger Rating



Stay aware of the fire danger rating and know what to do.

Fire Danger Ratings tell you how dangerous a fire could be if one started. The higher the rating the more dangerous the conditions. Fire Danger Ratings feature in weather forecasts during the fire season.

Everyday you should:

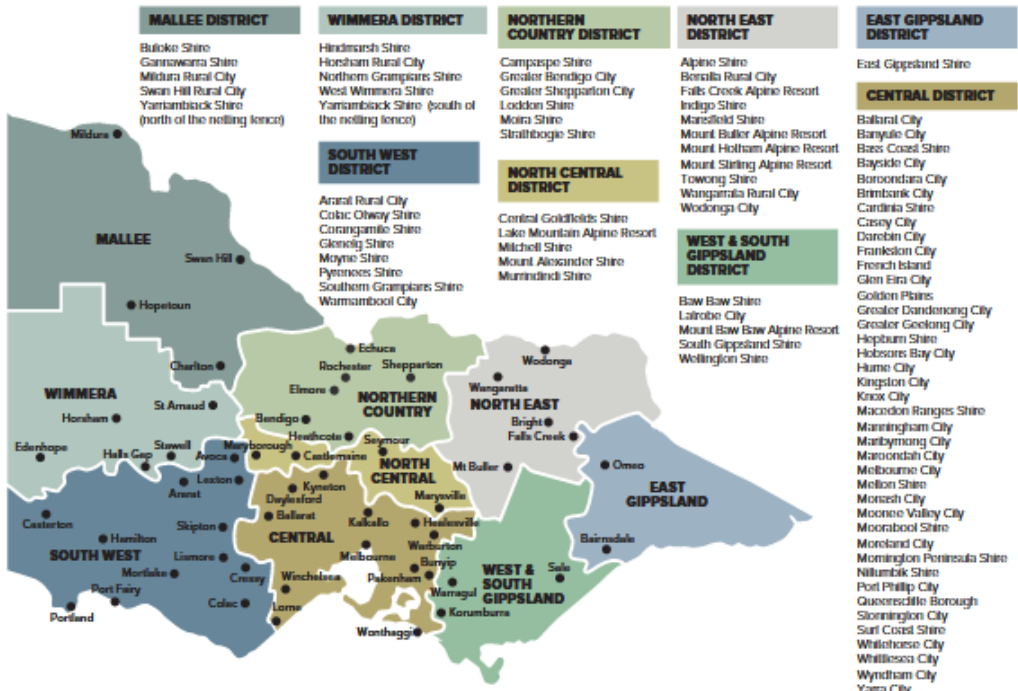
- ▶ Monitor conditions and official sources for warnings.
- ▶ If a fire starts near you, take action immediately to protect your life.
- ▶ Do not wait for a warning.
- ▶ Adhere to local regulations governing fire activity.
- ▶ Ensure any industrial and agricultural activities adhere to relevant guidelines.

To check your district's daily Fire Danger Rating, visit cfa.vic.gov.au, download the VicEmergency App or call 1800 226 226.

	What does it mean?	What should I do?
CATASTROPHIC	If a fire starts and takes hold, lives are likely to be lost. ▶ These are the most dangerous conditions for a fire.	For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas. ▶ Your life may depend on the decisions you make, even before there is a fire. ▶ For your survival, do not be in bushfire risk areas. ▶ Stay safe by going to a safer location early in the morning or the night before. ▶ Homes cannot withstand fires in these conditions. You may not be able to leave and help may not be available.
EXTREME	Fires will spread quickly and be extremely dangerous. ▶ These are dangerous fire conditions. ▶ Expect hot, dry and windy conditions.	Take action now to protect your life and property is fire ready ▶ Check your bushfire plan and that your property is fire ready ▶ If a fire starts, take immediate action. If you and your property are not prepared to the highest level, go to a safer location well before the fire impacts. ▶ Reconsider travel through bushfire risk areas. ▶ Leaving bushfire risk areas early in the day is your safest option.
HIGH	Fires can be dangerous.	Be ready to act. ▶ There's a heightened risk. Be alert for fires in your area. ▶ Decide what you will do if a fire starts. ▶ If a fire starts, your life and property may be at risk. The safest option is to avoid bushfire risk areas.
MODERATE	Most fires can be controlled.	Plan and prepare. ▶ Stay up to date and be ready to act if there is a fire.

Monitor conditions and official sources for warnings by going to cfa.vic.gov.au, emergency.vic.gov.au or call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226

Know Your Total Fire Ban District



TOTAL FIRE BANS

Total Fire Bans are declared by CFA on days when fires are likely to spread rapidly and be difficult to control.

On days of Total Fire Ban there are legal restrictions in force to reduce the likelihood of fires starting.

Victoria is divided into nine Total Fire Ban districts. Total Fire Bans are declared by district and you must know which district you live in. A list of municipalities that are located in each of the districts is shown in the coloured boxes.

For more information on Total Fire Bans and fire restrictions please call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226 or via National Relay Service on 1800 555 677 or visit cfa.vic.gov.au

For more information please visit the CFA website at cfa.vic.gov.au or phone the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226 or via National Relay Service on 1800 555 677



Property preparation, bushfire plan and burn off tips

- Move your winter woodpile away from the house or sheds
- Prune tree branches so they are not overhanging the roof or touching walls
- Clear your gutters
- Keep grass shorter than 10cm
- Remove leaves and twigs from around your property
- Prune back plants and garden beds near doors and windows
- Test any systems that are part of your fire plan such as sprinklers, pumps and generators
- Check that your home and contents insurance is current and includes a level of cover in line with increased building standards and regulations in bushfire risk areas.
- If you are burning off to remove green waste, register your burn-off online at Fire Permits Victoria (<https://www.firepermits.vic.gov.au/>)
- Make sure your household has a [Bushfire Survival Plan](#).
- Further information at www.cfa.vic.gov.au

You are invited to the 8th

PENSHURST ART EXHIBITION

Friday 24th - Sunday 26th March 2023

Penshurst Memorial Hall

Enter your art in our Exhibition or just enjoy the beauty

